What are you doing?: This introduction examines the various ways in which the key term "argument" could be understood. It also offers a clear definition and thesis statement that the rest of the essay will explore: two aspects of Shakespearian argument which, it will here be contended, are evident in the problem plays: firstly, that Shakespeare's argumentative method is to appeal to the emotions rather than to reason, and secondly that he argues through negation. The analysis of Sonnet 42 to set up this definition and place it in the context of Shakespeare's wider works is useful, but perhaps a little detailed to be included in an introduction, especially when this is not the object of the essay, and could be shortened so as not to distract the reader from the main topic, the Problem Plays.

Why are you doing this?: The essay shows that the issue of argument is significant as it is of wider relevance in understanding Shakespeare's works. It also demonstrates that Shakespeare's broader intentions may be misunderstood without a sensitive analysis of this issue.

How will you do this?: There is little explicit indication of how this essay will be structured. The reader might assume that the essay will be structured according to the two elements in the thesis statement, or perhaps deal with the three plays in the order in which they are named.

Overall, this introduction does answer the reader's three questions, although it is overly long and may have done better to leave some of the detailed analysis out as it is out of place in an introduction and not all of it adds to the issue under consideration.